GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:475
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
SMUGGLING ON INDO- NEPAL BORDER
Adityanath Yogi Shri ;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;Khanna Shri Avinash Rai;Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some illegal routes connecting India and Nepal which are being used for smuggling of various items including foodgrains have been traced;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last three years and the current year, commodity-wise;

(c) whether due to destruction of demarcation pillars, the no man`s land have also been occupied;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Prime Minister of Nepal during his recent visit to India; and

(f) if so, the details of the outcome thereof including the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.475 FOR 21.10.2008

(a)India and Nepal have a common border of 1751 Km. The border is very long and porous. Under Indo-Nepal Treaty, the free movement of citizens of both countries are allowed. There is no specific illegal routes for smuggling and trans-border criminal activities.

(b)Indo-Nepal border is guarded by Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) in coordination with the police authorities of the concerned State Governments. As per the information received from the SSB, the details of seizures of various items and arrests during the years 2005-2008 is annexed.

(c) & (d)As reported by the SSB, no such case has been reported on Indo-Nepal Border. There are 5311 border pillars. 862 are missing and 517 are damaged.

(e) & (f) During the recent visit of Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda to India on September 8-14, 2008, the entire gamut of bilateral relationship came up for discussions. It was inter alia decided to reactivate all bilateral mechanisms with Nepal. Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in handling cross border crime and security concerns. Home Secretaries are expected to meet soon in this regard.